

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/882,370

Applicant(s)

NAITO ET AL.

Examiner

Tran N. Nguyen

Art Unit

2834

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☐ This communication is responsive to 28/1/03.
2. ☐ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-8.
3. ☐ The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * Certified copies not received: _____.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
(a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
(a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. _____.
(b) ☒ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed 28/01/03, which has been approved by the Examiner.
(c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the top margin (not the back) of each sheet. The drawings should be filed as a separate paper with a transmittal letter addressed to the Official Draftsperson.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____ |
| 5 <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. _____ | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. The corrected or substitute drawings were received on Jan 28, '03. The Examiner of the record approves these drawings.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. **Claims 1-8** are allowed.

Reason for Allowability

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the primary reason for the allowance is the including, in combination with other limitations recited in the claims, the limitations of a permanent magnet rotor, comprising: a rotor core having a circumferential surface; a plurality of slits formed in the rotor core, each slit having **a first end and a second end that extend to and are opened to the circumferential surface of the core**, each slit having a radially outward side and a radially inward side, each slit having a longitudinal middle portion between the first end and the second end at which a portion of the rotor core forms a bridge cross the slit to interconnect a portion of the rotor core on the radially outward side of the slit with a portion of the rotor core on the radially inward portion of the slit; and a permanent magnet embedded in each slit, as recited in claims 1 and 7.

In another embodiment, **the bridge across the slit is configured to be inclined with respect to a magnetization direction of the permanent magnet**, as recited in claim 8.

Comparing to the prior-art of the record, none of the prior art references of the record, either stand alone or in combination, has taught or suggest the *a first end and a second end that extend to and are opened to the circumferential surface of the core*. To elaborate for clear understanding, these features of the slit enable the embedded magnet to be exposed, i.e., not to

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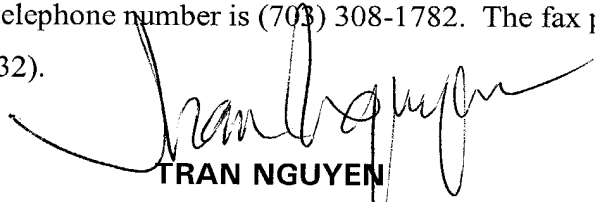
be covered by the rotor core, at the opened first and second ends thereof. This will decrease the flux leakage and increase reluctance torque. As for the inclined bridge across the slit, this feature will provide the bridge with large length so that the magnetic resistance is increased without the need of decreasing the strength of the bridges.

Thus, none of the prior art references of the record, either stand alone or in combination, has taught or suggest the aforementioned features in combination with other limitations recited in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tran Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-1639.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group Receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782. The fax phone number for this Group is (703) 305-3431 (32).


TRAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY PATENT EXAMINER
TC-2800